

# O'BRIEN, HERO OF BOSTON EXPRESS, FOR LOVE'S SAKE SOUGHT DEATH BY POISON

## Sweetheart Returned Watch He Had Given as Pledge of Affection—Drug Clerk Gave Glycerine Instead of Acid and Friend Knocked Bottle from Love-Crazed Hand—Youth's Nerves Shattered by Horrow of Impending Wreck Which He Prevented.

Michael O'Brien, the young railroad lampman who saved the Boston express from running upon the roller lift drawbridge while its tracks were raised, about four weeks ago, got it into his head last Tuesday night that he had best commit suicide. It seems that he is in love with a young woman, who returned a gold watch to him with a note that her affection for him has withered. Tuesday night, while playing pool with some friends in a Main street pool room, he informed them all that he was going to do away with himself. They thought he was joking.

At 10:30 o'clock a young man went into Jennie Hamilton's pharmacy and asked, "Can I buy 10 cents worth of carbolic acid here?"

# HEARING ON PAY INCREASE

## Men Courageously Face Superiors Before Ordinance Committee of Council

## JUDGE WILDER FOR; BULLARD AGAINST

## Employed 24 Hours a Day, Paid Less Than Police, Declare Firemen

## Paid More Than the Average in Other Cities, Commissioner Proclaims

With the courage which it is imperative the members of a fire department shall not lack, Lieut. Maurice Kelly of Chemical Company No. 2, Henry Baird, a driver for Company No. 6, and Thomas Lee, driver for Chemical No. 1, appeared before the ordinance committee of the Aldermanic body last night to favor the increase in pay sought by the members of the Bridgeport fire department.

When it is remembered that, using the columns of a portion of the press, the commissioners have practically denounced the demand for more pay as a species of insubordination, and that superior officers have been represented as saying that the men who formulated the request ought to be discharged from the department, it will be seen that the public appearance of representatives of the firemen required something of the courage which the same men must show when they enter a burning building.

The firemen were represented by Attorney Francis A. Wilder and A. H. Bullard, president of the Board of Fire Commissioners, appeared against the increase, in accordance with the action of the council on the subject.

With deliberation Lieut. Kelly presented the views of his fellow firemen. "It is," he said, "the right of any body of working men, no matter by whom employed, to better their condition, if they can, by the use of proper means, even if they lack the sanction of their superior officers. The firemen are employed, to better their condition, if they can, by the use of proper means, even if they lack the sanction of their superior officers. The firemen are employed, to better their condition, if they can, by the use of proper means, even if they lack the sanction of their superior officers."

## MUST DIE IF CAUGHT

Bob-tailed tiger cats are bad luck aboard ship. One stole aboard the steamer Seaboard, in New York on Tuesday and went to sleep on the mate's bed. This morning at 1 o'clock the Seaboard left the Merchants' Line Wharf in this city, she headed for Farist's Steel Works point and ran hard and fast there. It was 10:15 o'clock this forenoon before Capt. Isiah Kelly and his crew were able to get the freight laden craft free on its way to New York.

The Seaboard had just returned from a New York shipyard, where it cost \$3,000 to have her propeller repaired. As soon as she went aground this morning the crew to man blamed the accident to the cat and started to find the feline, but found the animal nowhere on the craft, but at daybreak the mate returned to the ship. Thomas seated on the edge of the wharf with eyes fixed upon the grounded steamer, and emitting unsteady cries. He was shouting to the mate of the Seaboard that he had left his cat behind. The mate replied that the cat would die if caught. The mate of the Seaboard said that the cat would die if caught. The mate of the Seaboard said that the cat would die if caught.

## JUDGE WILDER'S ARGUMENT FOR FIREMEN'S INCREASE

"It isn't necessary for me to tell this committee, appointed as you are by the Common Council, the powers which you possess. But I would like to call your attention to Section 53 of the city charter, which provides that the Common Council shall have power relative to fixing the salaries and compensation of officers and employees not otherwise fixed in this act, so that the firemen have appeared here tonight before this committee, which is the representative of the only body authorized by the State of Connecticut to deal with this matter."

It is also unnecessary for me to go into at any length the duties of a fireman. Within the last few years Bridgeport has been the scene of a great city. The men work 24 hours a day. To be sure they have four days off a month. But even then they are compelled to respond to the call of duty if a second alarm is rung in. The rest of the month 24 hours

# COMMISSIONERS DENY APPEAL OF NEW HAVEN R.R.

## Will Not Grant Permission to Company to Lay Tracks on Ten Foot Centers on Main Street

## City Attorney Thomas M. Cullinan Makes Presentation of City's Side...

## Commissioners Make Finding Soon After Arguments Are Closed

(Special to the Farmer.)  
Hartford, Sept. 16.—The railroad commissioners this afternoon refused the petition of the New Haven Railroad Company for the right to lay tracks on ten foot centers, in Main street, Bridgeport, from East Washington avenue to Gilbert street. The hearing was in the office of the commissioners, in the Capitol. It began at 12:30. Attorney J. H. Berry presented the petition of the railroad company. City Attorney Thomas M. Cullinan, of Bridgeport, presented the case for the city and so effectively that the commissioners rendered decision in favor of the city almost without leaving their seats.

Supt. Chapman, of Bridgeport, testified that the company desired only to protect its life and limb. He read a list of accidents caused by persons leaning out of one car and being hit by another car. He said that there was no legal liability against the company in such cases and that he desired only to protect the company's passengers.

City Attorney Cullinan disposed of the argument upon which the railroad relied by showing that most of its tracks in Bridgeport are laid upon nine foot centers, and that the trackage which it was proposed to put upon ten foot centers is an unimportant part of the whole.

Part of the petition of the company would permit, if granted, the sidewalks on Congress street to be pared at the corners. Mr. Cullinan said that the commissioners were bound to order the sidewalks of a city changed in any way; that this was a matter solely in the city, and that if the city should not consent to the change for such a purpose it would not be compelled to compensate the adjacent owner. Chairman Gates of the commission, said "I am of the opinion, that Mr. Cullinan's point is well taken."

Mr. Nichols, who owns property in the neighborhood of Congress street, objected to a slicing of the Congress street sidewalk.

Mayor Lee also appeared against the petition. He criticized the company because of the kind of cars it runs. City Engineer Maurice P. McKenna produced maps showing the narrowness of the sidewalks and the danger of the company's cars.

Against this, the state's executive has been fighting manfully since the operation performed yesterday by Dr. Mayo to remove an intestinal abscess.

Reports early to-day are that the governor has taken a turn for the better, and is now resting successfully without what appeared to be the first crisis following the operation.

It was declared that sleep would soon be induced, which would give the patient a chance to recuperate his strength.

As each day passes more announcements are made concerning the entertainment of the officers of the battleships Vermont and Etruria that are to be here soon. The Vermont will arrive either late to-night or early to-morrow morning. The national salute of 21 guns will be fired as she comes to anchor off the Bridgeport lighthouse. A cannon has been placed on the Esplanade to greet the water and a guard will be present from 12 o'clock to-day until the arrival of the battleship. The Italian cruiser Etruria will anchor beside the Vermont about 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon. A boat has been chartered which will leave here at 3 o'clock to-morrow morning to convey passengers to the Etruria, which is coming here from New Haven. A large delegation from New Haven, including the Mayor, Michael Riccio, will make the trip of welcome on the Steamer Rosedale, which when the battleship is met will turn and escort her to this city.

A public reception will be tendered the officers of both ships on Sunday afternoon at Steeplechase Island at the Hotel of Horace Jackson's bookshop. The Steamer Rosedale and John S. Sawyer will convey passengers to the war vessels, beginning at the arrival of the ships to-morrow. These 2 boats will continue to take parties to the Etruria and the Vermont on Wednesday morning.

Saturday night an informal reception will be given the officers by the members of the University club at the club house. The city officials will be present at the reception. On Monday an Italian flag will be presented to the Etruria and an American flag to the Vermont. Both are the gifts of 11 Soles, the local Italian newspaper. The flags will be on exhibition in the window of Horace Jackson's bookshop, Friday afternoon. Monday evening the formal banquet for the officers of both ships will be given at the Atlantic hotel. On Tuesday night, the last of the visit, the officers will attend Polli's, boxes having been reserved by Mr. Poli for the occasion. Luncheon will be served afterwards at the Atlantic hotel.

The funeral of Mrs. Flora L. wife of George M. Merriman will take place to-morrow. The interment will be in "set A" Conn.

# GOVERNOR JOHNSON HAS CHANCE

## Democratic Executive of Minnesota Slightly Improved Today

## FAILED AFTER OPERATION

(Special from United Press.)  
Rochester, Minn., Sept. 16.—After a critical evening and early morning, during which the patient's condition was swinging between hope and despair, Gov. John A. Johnson lies to-day at St. Mary's Hospital in such a condition that the advent of least unfavorable factors may precipitate the end.

Against this, the state's executive has been fighting manfully since the operation performed yesterday by Dr. Mayo to remove an intestinal abscess.

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# CORDIAL WELCOME TO BE ETRURIA'S

## Italian Cruiser Expected at 4 O'clock Tomorrow Afternoon

## LARGE RECEPTION SUNDAY

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# STEEL COMMON TAKES A JUMP

## Rumor of Retiring \$200,000,000 Worth of Stock Causes New Record

## PREFERRED UP 1 POINT

(Special from United Press.)  
New York, Sept. 16.—Rumors that the directors of the United States Steel Corporation intended retiring \$200,000,000 worth of the common stock of that corporation which it could buy from a syndicate at \$50 a share, sent Steel common up to a new high level today, the stock selling at \$31.8, a gain of 1.8 points. Preferred also advanced 1 point on the same rumor.

The boom in the rail department of the steel business, too, is responsible for part of the advance in price. This is said to be the last line of business to respond to the new era of prosperity.

Standard railroad and industrial stocks of the strength of the Steel advance, Pennsylvania making a new high record of 145.7. This advance, however, was due really to the report that the new \$30,000,000 issue of stock would probably result in rights equal to 9 per cent. when based on the present price of the stock.

Thomas Smith died at his home 537 Haver Avenue last night. He is survived by two brothers, Charles and Richard, and one sister, Mary J. Smith. Funeral services will be held Saturday.

# BURGLARS BREAK INTO FIVE RAILROAD STATIONS

## LOWER CONNECTICUT VALLEY TERRIFIED BY GANG OF SAFE BLOWERS EARLY TODAY

## Postmaster Prann at Centerbrook Frustrates Sensational Attempt to Enter His Store and Five Shots Are Fired at Him Before Marauders Make Their Escape.

(Special from United Press.)  
Centerbrook, Sept. 16.—A gang of burglars terrified the lower Connecticut Valley early to-day, broke into five railroad stations, beginning at Arnold's and winding up with a sensational attempt to blow the safe in the general store and postoffice of W. J. Prann at Centerbrook. Here they were discovered by the proprietor and after firing three shots at him, one of which narrowly missed his head, they made their escape, without securing any booty.

It is believed that the burglars traveled from one town to the other in a stolen team and Deputy Sheriff Davis, through a thorough search through the valley in an effort to locate the place from which the horses are believed to have been taken. The authorities in the surrounding towns have all been notified, but no clues have been discovered as yet and it is said that the gang is still on the loose. The amount of booty secured only amounted to small sums which the thieves took from the telephone booths of the railroad stations. The first trace of the thieves was found at Arnold's, where the station was entered, the telephone booth broken open and all wires cut. The burglars then continued their course south and entered the stations at Goodspeed, Chester, Hadlyme, Essex and Deep River. At all the stations, the telephone booths were broken open, the cash taken, and the wires cut. At Goodspeed they took the booth from the station and placed it on the track.

When the band reached Centerbrook they entered the blacksmith shop of D. H. Gladwin, where they secured a number of tools, with which it is believed they effected an entrance to the Prann store. While they were in the midst of their operations, Prann, who lives but a few rods from the store, was awakened by his wife, who said that she heard an explosion. He went to the window, and seeing a light in the postoffice department, shouted for help. His cries were answered by three shots from the revolver of a man on guard. One of the bullets passed within a few inches of his head and imbedded itself in the wall. The thieves then fled, examination of the safe revealed heavy charges of nitro-glycerine in the cracks. One charge had already been set off but failed to take effect.

This store was entered about a week ago by burglars who took a quantity of ribbons and were rescued. Then day that the suspects have been arrested in Providence. A local police man left for that city to-day to see if the case is not the same.

Mooning, Sept. 16.—News was received here to-day that the burglars who were responsible for recent robberies here and in other eastern Connecticut towns, are safely jailed in Abington, Mass., having been arrested in Pennsylvania. They are George R. Pearbury, aged 45, and a younger brother, Harry, aged 25. The younger man is said to have made a confession of over thirty robberies. After the Massachusetts authorities get through with them, they will be brought here for trial.

# THOUGHT BURGLAR WITH DARK LANTERN

## SEEKS FLYING IDEAS

## Watchman McNamara Finds Trespasser in Lake's Airship Park

## MAY SHOOT NEXT TIME

Armed with a burglar's dark lantern, someone who undoubtedly intended to pilfer some of Christopher J. Lake's airship thoughts, went to Hippodrome park shortly after midnight yesterday, but was undoubtedly unaware that Mr. Lake has a night watchman at his flying machine factory.

The watchman saw the light shining into the windows on the south side of the grandstand where the workshop is located. Although the man with the lantern was a trespasser upon the grounds the watchman did not disturb him for sometime. The man passed from window to window and kept a lookout for the watchman upon which he focused the rays from the lantern.

Finally the watchman asked the fellow who he wanted and who he was. The light and disappeared in the darkness.

Mr. Lake said this morning that he had been told that the man was still in the park. He said that he would turn up to get hold of some of the ideas embodied in the work that is being carried on.

Alexander Watt, assistant jailer, said this morning that "Jim" was pretty well down at the heels and that it was a question if he would be able to stand the money. Jim has not said anything about it to the jailer as yet.

James refused to talk. To Mr. Watt he said that he intended to go up in the country and "do the fairs" when he gets out. As the fair season will be over in a couple of months it appears as if Jim expects to be released Saturday night.

There is considerable speculation as to what Jacques will do permanently. Some people doubt that he has really turned over his saloon to William Hart, the present proprietor. These people say that they still believe in Jacques being back here. There has been no confirmation of the report any "gentlemen's agreement" between the two.

John Johnson, the detective, who had much to do with gaining the evidence which convicted Jacques, says that a claim to be given to him by his friends. In such a case Johnson says he may buy a ticket.

## Can "Jim" Jacques Raise Liberty's Price

## He Will Be Freed from Jail Saturday If He Can Pay \$75.

Providing Jim Jacques can pay the fine of \$75 which was imposed on him, besides a 4 months jail sentence in the criminal superior court, last June, for keeping a disorderly house, he will be set at liberty Saturday night. If the fine is not paid he must serve 75 days longer.

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# NORWALK GIRLS SEEK WORK WHILE POLICE SEEK THEM

Eager to be independent and to get away from home restraints two pert young misses from South Norwalk, one of them being Lillian Anderson, 15 years old, appeared at the Allen Employment bureau, at 96 Main street, yesterday morning and told Mr. Allen that they had read of the lack of help in this city and they had come looking for work. In their eagerness to get away from mother's apron strings they forgot to take more money than was necessary to pay car fare.

When Mr. Allen asked for the customary dollar for the registration fee they looked blank and replied that they had no money. They were told that since they had no money they shouldn't have come around.

Mr. Allen reported the matter to Detective Fox. After a few hours Fox met a South Norwalk policeman accompanied by Mrs. Anderson, Lillian's mother. The policeman had a warrant, charging her with incurability. The mother found the girls and took them back to South Norwalk.

## FIRE DESTROYS CHAIR WORKS

(Special from United Press.)  
South Ashburham, Mass., Sept. 16.—Fire early today destroyed the chair works here of W. B. Pierce, which employed 10 persons. The loss is \$25,000 with no insurance. In fighting the flames, a hand tub worked along with a gasoline fire engine, the only one in the state. The cause of the fire is unknown.

TO RENT.—A very desirable lower flat, all improvements, 185 Park St. I 14 d o

WANTED.—A tailor. Apply to Geo. Fryer, 1068 East Main St. I 15 s o

# ELEVEN PERISH IN LIFE-BOATS

## Attempt Made to Land Them When Steamer Went on Rocks

## SWAMPED BY A WAVE

(Special from United Press.)  
Capetown, South Africa, Sept. 16.—Five women and six men, passengers on the South African Steamship Company's steamer Unhail, were drowned while an attempt was being made to land them after the steamer went on the rocks off Cape Point today. Four boat loads of passengers were missing in the fog for several hours, and at a time it was feared that they had been lost.

The steamer got out of her course in the fog and struck on the rocks in the morning. The captain saw that the steamer must soon become a total wreck, and gave orders to land the passengers in lifeboats. Four got away all right but the others were swamped by an immense wave and the eleven passengers, not having life belts, sank before aid could reach them.

# (UNCLASSIFIED.)

WANTED.—Competent laundress to do two or three days work per week. Apply Mrs. L. T. Warner, 61 Broad St. I 15 b o

TO RENT.—1150 Kosuth street, a nice room flat, hot water, all improvements. Inquire Mrs. J. E. Brown. I 15 s o

DON'T WAIT until you get blood poisoning before you call on Dr. Mansfield, 201 Meigs Bldg. Afternoon and Sundays. a

WANTED.—To buy good Chestnut timber woodland 10 or 15 acres. Not further than eight miles from city. Call at Alex. Ziomek, 357 Hancock Ave. I 15 s o

FOR SALE.—Upright piano, square piano \$10, organ \$3, violin \$3 and up. "El" Potch Piano Co., 144 Noble Ave. I 14 u o

FOR SALE.—Restaurant, Reasonable offer to leave town. Address Y. H. office. I 13 d o

FOR SALE.—Beautiful Steinway grand piano. Will take upright piano in exchange. \$44 Noble Ave. I 13 s o

TO RENT.—Flat, 400 Barnum avenue. Enquire Mrs. Fones, 837 East Main. I 10 d o

TO RENT.—Desk room with roll top desk. 416 Warner Building. I 12 t o

TYPEWRITING.—Mimeographing, Notary Public, 103 Meigs Bldg. P 17 t o

CASCA-LAXINE TABLETS cure biliousness and constipation. Follow the direction. U 12 o

THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL provides special opportunities for boys over twelve years of age who are one, two, or three years below high school grade. I 4 s

WANTED.—Girls for single and double needle machines. Steady work and good pay. Apply Thomas Taylor, James St. I 11 d o

TO RENT.—Entire third floor containing 5,500 sq. ft. in fireproof building. Corner Fairfield and Courtland. Apply Crawford Laundry Co. P 31 t o

FOR SALE.—Corner saloon, license, property. Big stock. Good business. \$5,500. \$5,000 can remain on mortgage at 6 per cent. No agents. Inquire 722 Main St. I 15 s o

THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL, 238 Fulton Avenue, September 16, 1909, eighteen year. The course of study includes all subjects required for admission to the leading universities with instruction in modern languages, work. Office hours, afternoon and evening. I 1 s